

The Negro Farmer

and Messenger

Published Monthly in the Interest of the Home, Farm and Garden; especially devoted to the Interest of Negro Land Owners and Tenant Farmers

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No. 10

How to Save Alabama's Corn Crop

Alabama Experiment Station Bulletin No. 90

WHAT ARE WE LOSING?

Alabama farmers have been paying a tax of at least \$4,000,000 a year out of their corn crop of from 50,000,000 to 60,000,000 bushels during recent years. This tax has been collected by the black weevil and other insects which have taken most of it out of the cribs after the corn has been put in storage. The destruction of this immense amount of corn has been permitted without protest from the corn raiser because he has not known that most of this loss can be easily prevented.

With the increased yield of corn which promises soon to be double previous crops a far larger amount of corn will certainly be carried into storage into the succeeding summer and the insect loss is certain to increase and may exceed \$10,000,000 worth of corn a year if we continue to harvest and store corn according to old customs in the South. At this time when we need every dollar's worth of corn to feed men and farm animals we certainly cannot afford to waste absolutely and needlessly some 7,000,000 bushels, or possibly more, in feeding insects. While the farmer bears the major part of this loss every user of corn and other grain must and does actually help to pay the bill.

How Can This Great Loss Be Prevented?

This problem has been studied closely by the Department of Entomology at Auburn for the past eight years and the practicability of preventing a large part of this insect damage has been demonstrated both through experimental work and also through the repeated experience of some of the best corn raisers in Alabama. We can save many millions of dollars worth of corn if corn raisers generally will make a few simple, practicable and inexpensive changes in the usual time and methods of harvesting and storing corn. In this Bulletin we can give only the most essential points from the recommendations first made in Alabama Bulletin No. 176. As Bulletin No. 176 is now out of print, this summary takes its place for further distribution. The following steps should be put into practice promptly and in the order stated:

1. Utilize the very earliest maturing corn on the farm as a Trap Plot. This step is essential to most complete and economical control of all insects attacking stored corn. All of these species begin their work in the field. The black weevil or rice weevil is the most important species. They are attracted for some distance, and therefore concentrate upon the earliest maturing corn and produce their first field generation therein. It requires only four weeks for this generation to develop after the eggs are laid and the eggs are laid as soon as the corn begins to

harden or glaze. Therefore if all of the ears from this earliest plot are gathered with the husk on within six weeks after the corn was in roasting ear stage it is possible to take practically all of this first generation out of the field and prevent the spread that would otherwise occur during the next few weeks to later maturing corn. Put this early corn, with its insects, where it can be fumigated or fed out promptly. Otherwise sell it immediately to protect the main crop. Do this regardless of the small number of weevil apparent or the lack of emergence holes in the kernels. If you wait even a week or two after this first generation emerges they will have spread to later corn and your best opportunity for control will have been lost. Spring the trap while the weevils are in it:

2. Have all storage places clean. Never store new corn on top of any remnants of last year's crop. Clean the crib as thoroughly as it can be swept. Then pour boiling water liberally around floor and walls to destroy insects hiding in cracks. While the crib is empty make it as nearly rat proof as possible.

Harvest the main crop as soon as it is thoroughly mature and gather this with the husks off. By using husking hooks the ears can be broken from the husks practically as quickly as they can be gathered in the slip shuck. By leaving the husks in the field fully three-fourths of the adult insects on the ear will be left there and the small number of insects then stored with the corn cannot, and will not, do as much damage as would the far larger number if stored with the husks on. The husk is a protection to the grain while the corn is maturing but after that it protects the insects while they feed on the corn. Corn stored in the bare ear always suffers less from insect attack than does corn from the same field stored with the husk on.

4. Select seed ears, also separate infested from uninfested ears as the corn is gathered. This is conveniently done with practically no extra labor by fastening a box on the end of the wagon to receive seed ears and by dividing the wagon body in two sections by means of a cross partition of some kind. This partition may be made of movable boards or by fastening in place a sheet made of canvas or oat sacks. One section is to receive infested ears as they are gathered; the other is for the practically uninfested ears.

5. Store according to condition of infestation, etc. Never put earlier maturing corn in the bottom of a crib and then pile late maturing corn on top. Use separate bins if possible. Late corn is practically free from weevils and this with other weevil-free corn can be stored where it is to be kept longest. This may be in a pole or log crib that would be entire-

ly too open for fumigation, yet if weevils are not in it at storage time such corn may be kept until the following August with very little loss and without requiring any treatment.

Early matured corn is most likely to be infested and this, or any infested corn, should be stored where it will be used first and, if possible, where it can be fumigated with carbon disulphid or "high life." After fumigation it may be moved to more open cribs if desired.

Seed ears should be fumigated before cold weather. Sound seed is essential to perfect stands and large yields.

6. Select seed corn in the field at harvesting time. Select seed ears from stalks having two or more good ears each. These two ears will give more grain per stalk than will be obtained from one larger ear. Select seed for yield of grain and weevil resistance rather than for "show type of ear." In addition to every other character considered see that every seed ear is hanging downward and has also a good long, tight-fitting husk. This tight-fitting husk is the most important single character in keeping insects out of the ears as they mature or afterward and thus producing sound corn that can be stored long without loss. Save plenty of seed ears in the field and later make more careful selection therefrom. We may need more seed corn next year than we did this year.

7. Never salt corn as it is put into the crib. Salt is not an insecticide and its only effect is to take up moisture from the air during periods of damp weather and this moisture softens the corn so that the weevils can work faster. They actually multiply faster and do more damage in salted corn than in lots of the same corn stored without being salted. There is no value in china berries, Jerusalem oak or other similar weeds.

It does help to scatter moth balls (Naphthalene balls) through the corn as it is stored, using about a pound to every twenty-five bushels of corn.

Those who have or wish to make a tight fumigation room should write for detailed instructions which will be sent free upon request. The cost of Carbon disulphid has increased greatly recently but its use may still be highly profitable under certain conditions.

8. Spread this information among your neighbors and secure general action throughout your community in order to secure the largest degree of protection possible for your own crop and also to make the total saving in corn as great as we can. Save this article for future reference. The suggestions given herein will be as applicable next year as they are now. The suggestions are simple, inexpensive and effective and are practicable for every grower of corn, every year.

Remember that this war is calling upon every citizen to do his "bit." "Every little bit helps" to win, too, both over the foes without and the foes within our corn cribs. See that

every tenant attends to this matter promptly also and thus help to save many millions of dollars worth of corn in Alabama every year.

W. E. HINDS, Entomologist,
Alabama Experiment Station.
Auburn, Alabama, Aug. 18, 1917.

Every Farmer Should Plant Wheat This Fall

The present high price of wheat, and the still higher price of flour, with but little hope of it falling to normal prices, make it all the more important that every farmer should raise, as far as possible, not only his own cereal grains, but some to spare.

Comparatively few farmers realize that both Alabama soil and climate are adapted to wheat growing. True, there have been many failures, all of which can be traced to one or more of the following troubles:

(1) Poor Preparation of Land.

Wheat likes a well-prepared seed-bed, the ground broken good and deep (varying from 7 to 9 inches), harrowed well, re-broken, and harrowed again if necessary. The ground must be well pulverized.

(2) Poor Fertilization.

Wheat will not make a satisfactory yield on poor soil; so do not try it. Our Experiment station here made 21 1-2 bushels to the acre last year with the following fertilization: 25 tons per acre of compost was spread broadcast and plowed in. This compost was a mixture of leaves and muck from the woods and swamps, and barnyard manure mixed thus: Two loads of leaves and muck, one of barnyard manure on most Alabama soils that I have examined, 200 lbs. of acid phosphate to the acre in addition to the compost, is all that is necessary.

(3) Poor Selection of Seed.

Many farmers buy wheat to sow, and pay absolutely no attention to the variety. Our station made a test of nine varieties, and selected the following as best:

Fulcaster and Red Wonder, bearded varieties; Blue Stem or Purple Straw, Klondyke, Fultz, Golden Chaff, beardless varieties.

Nice, plump, home-grown seed of any of the above-named varieties is preferable, as a rule, to seed grown outside the State.

(4) Too Early or Too Late Sowing.

Wheat should not be sown until after the first killing frost, which means for this locality (Macon County) after the middle of October. If planted earlier the Hessian fly will destroy much of it; if planted later, unless the winter is very mild, much of it will winter-kill.

We hope every farmer will be patriotic enough to plant at least an

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acre of wheat. Carry out the above suggestions, and you will be agreeably surprised at harvest time and wish you had planted more.

G. W. CARVER,
Director Department of Research
and Experiment Station.

FINDS LEE COUNTY NEGRO FARMERS READY FOR BIG HARVEST

To visit and inspect county colored schools and to encourage and urge the Negro farmers to harvest closely and to store away their crops, a party of men from Tuskegee Institute toured a large part of Lee County Wednesday, August 22. The party was under the direction of U. S. District Agent T. M. Campbell. Those accompanying him on the trip were Warren Logan, Treasurer of Tuskegee Institute; Major J. B. Ramsey, Commandant; Clement Richardson, Assistant Director of the Academic Department, and C. M. Battey, photographer. The party was piloted by C. D. Menafee, U. S. Demonstration Agent of Lee County.

The committee was amazed at the number of prosperous Negro farmers in Lee County—Negroes owning large acreages, plenty of stock, and flourishing gardens. Incidentally, as was frequently pointed out by the Treasurer and Acting Principal Warren Logan, "large acreage seems in every case to indicate large and healthy families." Men were running farms which ranged from 80 to 450 acres, they being paid for and free of debt. Everywhere corn was the predominating crop, ranging from thirty to fifty acres, with two and three good ears to the stalk. Cotton was flourishing, though the boll weevil will greatly reduce the year's crop, as that pest is rampant in Lee County. Velvet beans were rioting; stock were in plenty.

Without exaggeration, the Negro farmers of Lee County are raising what they eat. The committee had dinner at the home of a farmer named Benford, who lives some seven or eight miles out of Opelika. On the table were seven varieties of homegrown vegetables cooked with meat, when necessary, from the smoke-house. The biscuit and corn bread were both made from the grain grown by Farmer Benford. Milk and butter came from their own cows. Out back, apple trees were heavy with ripening fruit in an orchard which paid \$100 a year from sale of fruits. The garden carried collards, cabbage, tomatoes, mustard, carrots, sweet potatoes, butter beans, peas and okra. He carried thirty acres of corn, fifteen acres of cotton, velvet beans in abundance. Farmer Benford owns 250 acres of land, about 100 of which are under cultivation.

At the home of Farmer Somers, the committee found again a large acreage of corn and foodstuffs, plenty of hogs, a run of beef cattle, and dairy cows. The farmer sells regularly to the markets of Opelika. He, like all the farmers, had a large run of poultry.

Farmer Dowdell was one of the big farmers. He had thirty head of hogs, twelve cows, fifty bushels of wheat in his granary, which fell short thirty bushels this year, he having raised eighty bushels last year; meat in his smoke-house, a yard full of poultry. In his fields, which were luxuriant with corn and velvet beans, and which flourished in cotton, he employed the "Mangum" method of terracing, aided by Demonstrator Menafee. This method consists in making wide, low terraces, depending on the slope, and

planting on the terrace. Thus his fields had held their fertilizer, their water, and bore no signs of washouts. He owned some 380 acres, and set a table from his own produce.

Farmer Murphy had 17 turkeys on the roost pole, three middlings and one ham still hanging from last year's killing, five hogs in the pasture, and an orchard weighted down with pears and apples. He owns 120 acres, was growing plenty of foodstuffs, some to sell. His wife was collecting her sacks of dried apples from the front porch as the committee left their home.

The Farm Woman

Just out of Salem, Ala., is a Negro woman farmer, Crowder by name. She was the most aggressive "man" of them all. A charcoal pit barred the road to her house. Back of there was a pile of new shingles, which she was paying for with the charcoal that she sold in town. She owns six cows, two mules, four hogs, corn, the best of which carried three and four ears to the stalk; sugar-cane, velvet beans, soy beans, tomatoes so abundant as to be fed to the hogs. Between two and three bushels were spread out in her back hall. She plowed "like the rest" when she could find no one to plow for her. She owned 120 acres.

The Lee County folks have also a system of marketing. There are certain days when they send to the market poultry, butter, milk, eggs, thus keeping themselves in pocket-money, and knowing how to regulate the use of their produce at home. All farmers reported owing less on their crop this year than ever before; all were using intensive methods; all were little bothered with the war, the next President, the migration question, or the high cost of living.

Reported by
CLEMENT RICHARDSON.

BACTERIOLOGY AND THE PUBLIC HEALTH

Why educate your boy and then let him die of typhoid fever? Why not, instead of the usual nursery rhymes, teach him a jingle which contains a very important truth, one which may be brought forth each day with renewed interest, such as the following:

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Will have five million sons and daughters,
And countless first and second cousins;
Of aunts and uncles, scores and dozens,
And fifty-seven billion nieces;
So knock the blamed thing all to pieces."

Or:
"Most injurious typhoid fly,
Drink with you no more will I;
When you settle on my cup,
I perchance bacteria sup;
After what I've seen today,
I would have you chased away,
I dislike those feet of thine,
What they've touched I shall decline;
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Get thee hence; return no more;
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Kindly leave my food alone."

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no single science can the rapidity of development be compared with that of bacteriology, nor can another science present as the result of development more far-reaching consequences in its application to the welfare of the human race.

All university schedules offer a number of electives. Why not elect a subject which tends to the promotion of health, and be a booster for the health and, therefore, the happiness of the human race? The conservation of the public health is a paramount issue. There is great need for selective draft in this particular important field. Let it be hoped that no university student would claim exemption.

In the Department of Bacteriology may be found all the equipment usually provided in well appointed laboratories. Five of the leading journals pertaining to the subject, and all the Public Health Bulletins published in the country are on file.

JOHN T. PUTMAN.

COWPEAS—A NOURISHING Food

Washington, D. C.—Cowpeas or Southern field peas, which, despite their name, are really a kind of bean, are, like other dry beans, comparable with meat in the kind of nourishment contained in them, and can, in the opinion of specialists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, well be used more extensively as human food. They are commonly used in the South, where they are extensively grown, but are practically unknown in the North and Northwest, where other, often more expensive, beans are consumed in large quantities.

There are many varieties of cowpeas, of which the white and black eye sorts are considered particularly desirable for the table. In palatability, digestibility, and nutritive value they compare favorably with other beans, while their delicate and pleasing flavor lead many to consider them equal, if not superior, to the latter.

Cowpeas are used on the table in three forms—in the pod, shelled green and shelled dry, corresponding respectively with string beans, shelled green beans, and dried beans, and calling for much the same methods of preparation for the table. The dry cowpeas are by far the most common. Like dry navy or Lima beans, cowpeas may be boiled with a bit of fat meat or baked and served in place of lean meat or other food rich in nitrogen. Boiled and mashed through a colander, the beans form a foundation for numerous dishes. They may be creamed with milk and butter, like mashed potatoes; formed into croquettes with bread crumbs and fried or baked; made into a loaf with bread crumbs, minced vegetables, milk and seasonings; or made into soup.

A delicious combination dish, called "Hopping John," may be made as follows: Boil 1 quart of cowpeas and a scant pint of rice separately and mix together when done. The rice should be seasoned after it is cooked. Bacon or a beef bone boiled with the cowpeas adds a desirable flavor to the dish. Recipes for other cowpea dishes follow:

Baked Cowpeas

Cook 1 quart of large, white, dry cowpeas slowly in water until they begin to soften. This will require five or six hours. Put them into a bean pot, add one-half pound of salt pork, and either 1 tablespoonful of

molasses or a small onion cut up fine. Cover with water and bake slowly six or seven hours. It is well to have the pot covered except during the last hour.

Cowpea Soup

1 tablespoonful butter or pork fat.
1 tablespoonful finely chopped onion.
1 stalk celery, finely chopped.
1 cup dry cowpeas.
Salt.

Soak the peas eight or ten hours in water enough to cover. Fry the vegetables in the butter, add the peas in the water in which they were soaked, and cook (preferably in a double boiler) until the peas are tender. Put the mixture through a sieve and add water enough to bring it to the consistency preferred. Reheat. If this soup is thickened with 1 tablespoonful of flour mixed with a little water, the pea pulp will not sink.

Puree of Cowpeas

(Used like mashed potatoes.)

Soak 1 pint of dry cowpeas in cold water overnight. Cook until soft in just enough water to cover. Drain and pass through a sieve. Season with salt, pepper, one-half cupful of cream (or milk and a tablespoonful of butter or other fat), and 2 teaspoonfuls of brown sugar. Beat thoroughly, reheat, and serve like mashed potatoes.

Baked Cowpeas and Cheese

(Substitute for Meat Roll)

1 tablespoon butter.
1 tablespoon finely chopped onion.
1 tablespoon finely chopped sweet green pepper, or celery.
2 cups cooked cowpeas.
½ cup grated cheese.

Press the peas through a sieve to remove the skins, and mix with the cheese. Cook the onion and pepper, or celery, in the butter or other fat, being careful not to brown, and add them to the peas and cheese. Form the mixture into a roll, place on a buttered dish and cook in a moderate oven until brown, basting occasionally with butter or other fat and water. Serve hot or cold like meat.

HOW TO GET A GOOD SCHOOL HOUSE

The laws of the State of Alabama, will hereafter compel every parent to send his children to school at least 80 days every year. What are you doing to comfortably house these children? Have you made any efforts to build a new schoolhouse, or will you sit down and content yourself with that old broken down building that is injuring the health of your boys and girls? Mr. Julius Rosenwald, through the Tuskegee Institute, is offering to help the colored people of the rural districts throughout the South to build better schoolhouses. This means that your community can get some of this money. For further information, write

C. J. CALLOWAY.

Director Extension Department,
Tuskegee Institute, Ala.

THE NEGRO FARMER AND MESSENGER

VERNON W. BARNETT
Editor and Business Manager

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EDITORIAL

BE PATIENT AND KEEP STRIKING

I admit that the suggestion found in the above statement may seem a little hard to carry out at times. In the midst of war and high prices of everything we are inclined to grow impatient and "fall by the wayside," but battles are not won that way. It is only the man who properly directs his forces and keeps them directed, that will finally succeed. After all, it is not the president, nor Congress, nor the men at the front, who must regulate prices or bring the war to a close. They can do only their part. But it remains for the farmer, the man who carries the key to the "world's smoke-house," the man who must feed the nation, to do his part or else the whole machinery will weaken.

We have been unusually fortunate this year in producing a large crop of foodstuffs. But what is the use of a cow giving six gallons of milk if she kicks it all over as soon as she gives it. Our big crop will do us very little good unless we take care of it. There will be thousands of persons hungry this winter if we follow our usual path of waste. More than ever we must appreciate the value of the little things—the value of the left overs—the food value of the crumbs and soup bones. We can no longer indulge in the matter of cooking more than is needed and discarding that which is not eaten. It costs just as much to produce that which is allowed to grow stale and to find its way into the garbage can as it does to produce that which is actually eaten. In fact, it is not the actual necessities of life that tend to keep the world in want and misery, but it is the dreadful waste that is allowed to go on about our place. We can live happily and comfortably even in the face of high prices, if we look after the little leaks. Cut out the big Sunday dinners, and see to it that practically everything used in the house is produced there. Buy no vegetables that you can as well grow in your own garden. Make every scrap of meat, crumb of bread or drop of milk count.

Your Hog Crop

Mr. Farmer, how are the hogs? I hope you have not neglected them. Remember that meat is now 30 cents per pound, and hogs are 18 to 20 cents per pound on foot. Which po-

sition will you occupy, that of the seller, or that of the buyer? Can you afford to let the other fellow raise your meat and charge you 30 cents per pound. The thoughtful farmer has kept his eyes open and will have not only meat enough for his own use, but will have some to put on the market.

MEMBERS OF HOMEMAKERS CLUBS OF MACON COUNTY, ALA., HOLD ANNUAL MEETING.

The closing exercises of the Macon County Canning Club was held at New Rising Star, September 6, 1917. At this meeting there were near one hundred and fifty people present representing fourteen communities. The day being pleasant, people came from far and near. There were some present who came from a distance of more than twenty-one miles. Despite the fact that it was a very busy season for the farmers, Miss Sarah Woodall, Jeanes Fund Supervisor for Macon County, succeeded in so arousing the people that they were willing to leave off their various duties and be present at this meeting.

The program for the day was divided into two parts, the morning and afternoon session. The meeting began at ten o'clock. The devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. Thomas Williams, a progressive framer, of Brown Hill community. Following the devotional exercises the welcome address was delivered by Prof. J. A. Barney, Principal of the New Rising Star School. Mr. Barney stated that it was an unusual thing to see a group of people meeting on an occasion of this kind in a rural community. He stated further that it was indeed a pleasure to welcome them to the school and community, through the buildings and grounds, to the baskets, etc.

After the welcome address there was an old fashion spelling contest, between people who had not been to school in fifteen years and those who had attended school within the last fifteen years. It would have been a pleasure to anyone who might have had the opportunity of witnessing the interest that was shown by the mothers and fathers who stood and spelled so well against the young people. Both sides spelled so well that time would not permit them to be spelled down.

Dinner was served by the club women in a beautiful grove near the school building. Everyone present enjoyed a wholesome meal. After dinner the crowd reassembled and the program was continued. The first thing in the afternoon session was the report from various clubs.

Mrs. Simpson of Clintonville, gave a very interesting report of her club. She stated that she had canned 352 quarts of fruit and vegetables. Among the others that made report of their clubs were Mrs. Pugh of Shiloh community, Mrs. Lumpkin, Cross Keys community, Mrs. Mary Simpson of Mt. Zion community, and Mrs. Huffman of Simmons Chapel community. Some of the Presidents stated that much spoiled previous to the visits and instructions from their supervisors. This goes to show the need of supervisors in various communities. One lady stated that she had used thirty-five recipes taken from the bulletin on wild plums that was gotten out by Prof. G. W. Carver. The idea was clearly brought

out that these bulletins are of great value to the rural people.

Superintendent W. B. Riley was present and gave a very interesting address. Prof. Riley stated that it was a pleasure to him to see the interest that was manifested on the part of the club workers in the county along the lines of saving the surplus fruit and vegetables. He further explained the Compulsory Educational school laws. He stated that every child of school age should be in school on the first day of school for the school year 1917 and 1918.

Prof. C. J. Calloway, Director Extension Department, Tuskegee Institute, stated very clearly that the women of the county were on the right road. He spoke very highly of the good that the canning clubs were doing throughout the county. He also emphasized the necessity of organizations among the colored people.

Mr. Battey, the Institute photographer, gave a very interesting talk. He urged the people to cut down the acreage and cultivate only the amount of land they can properly handle.

Mrs. Garner was present and called the people's attention to the Macon County Fair.

Following the address Mr. Battey took several pictures of people and exhibits both in and outside of the building. After the photographs were taken a number of prizes were awarded to members of the canning club.

After the awarding of the prizes every one went home with new inspiration feeling that they had been benefited by the meeting.

NEGRO FARM AGENTS DOING THEIR SHARE TO WIN THE WAR.

August 17, 1917.

"What are you doing to help win the war?" This is the query which District Agent T. M. Campbell sent out over Alabama to the Negro U. S. Farm Demonstration Agents and Club workers, under the Smith-Lever Act. From every worker encouraging reports come back. T. H. Toodle, Dallas County Agent, launched garden campaigns, taught fruit and vegetable drying and canning, and taught remedies for treating sick poultry and livestock.

F. L. Bennett, another agent in Wilcox County, where the floods brought total destruction to food crops last year, this year he stressed food crops with result that Wilcox has the greatest outlook in its history for a big corn crop. The people in this county are now planting late gardens.

B. F. Hill, Madison County Agent in North Alabama, began his work amidst shortage of food stuffs. He too stressed the raising of all kinds of food and feed in addition to which he has inoculated 318 hogs for cholera and vaccinated 276 cattle for black-leg.

Miss N. Juanita Coleman, Home Demonstration Agent, is working among the women teaching them to can, sew, preserve and keep house; as is also Miss Susan T. Whitfield. Indeed the work of women agents often brings more immediate results than the work of the men, due to the fact that actual returns can be had on a given operation in one lesson, while the men agents have to wait several months to convince their pupils.

Hoggs and poultry have been greatly increased in Hale and Marengo Counties by the work of

Agent P. J. Brown. The teaching of shallow cultivation in Greene County by Agent J. D. Barnes saved the corn crop during the dry weather. Agent C. D. Menafee in Lee County taught planters to pick up "Squares" and burn them and destroy the stalks, thus saving the crop from the boll weevil. Moreover this work is bringing an unprecedented prosperity to his county. In Lowndes County, Agent N. L. Johnson reports an increase in production of from 5 to 100 per cent more corn per farm, 50 to 75 per cent more sweet potatoes, 100 to 300 per cent more velvet beans, 75 to 100 per cent more peanuts and good gardens, 8 to 10 months in the year. Agent J. B. McPherson of Randolph County, in addition to prevailing on the farmers has all of the Negro schools and churches co-operating in his food production movements.

A feature of these replies was the report of Agent Harry Simms who is conducting the movable schools for Negro farmers, their wives and children. Selecting seed corn from the stalk, specimen hogs to teach the men, and crocus sack rugs, canned goods and the like for the women, he, with his helpers, gives concrete lessons of the good and the bad in farming and farm life. Moreover he takes up in detail the question of health, discussing the use of the tooth brushes, screens, more than one-room houses to live live in, whitewash, paint, toilets, especially sanitary toilets. Backward in health protection in Greene County, where he held one of his schools, all farmers promised to take steps towards correcting these weaknesses immediately. Indeed one or two built sanitary toilets during the weekly session of the school.

AN EX-STUDENT OF THE TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE MAKING FINE RECORD.

The accompanying cut is a picture of the blacksmith shop of Mr. Wm. Thomas, of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, an ex-student of the Tuskegee Institute. I have chosen to say just a word concerning this young man in the hope that it may catch the attention of other young men, who perhaps are inclined to grow discouraged and inspire them to nobler ideals.

Mr. Thomas was born and reared amidst very humble surroundings. on the farm in Hale County, Ala., Being ambitious to improve himself, as well as to increase his earning capacity, he entered the Tuskegee Institute, in 1895, and in addition to his literary course studied blacksmithing. He spent a little more than three years at this institution, returning to his home town, Greensboro, Ala., in 1898 and opened a shop of his own. He started with a capital of \$25, and because of his thorough knowledge of his trade and his honest dealings with his patrons, soon became the leading blacksmith of the town. Although his business was burned twice, he did not grow discouraged. On Jan. 31, 1911, he moved to Tuscaloosa, Ala., where he saw a greater opportunity for increasing the volume of his business.

He found here six blacksmith shops—4 white and 2 colored. Today his is the leading shop in the town. 95 per cent of his trade in from white people. The size of his shop was at first was 20x50 feet, but his business soon outgrew this space and today he has a floor space of 80 by 100 feet. At first he did a business

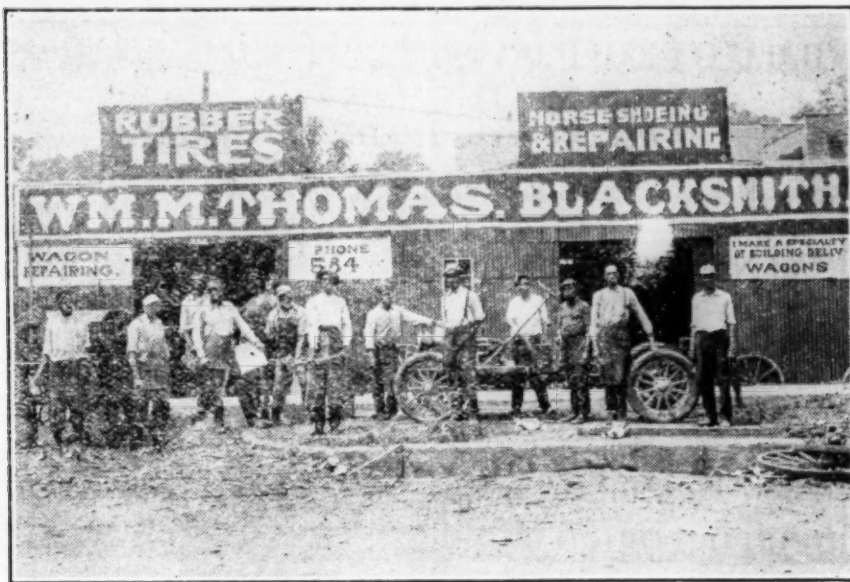
of from \$1,500 to \$2,000 per year. Today he averages \$10,000 worth of business a year. He has done as much as 2,000 worth of business in one month.

Mr. Thomas has the monopoly of the automobile-truck and rubber-tire business of his town. In fact, he has done his work so well that jobs are sent to him from a distance of 75 miles. He keeps five men busy the year round. He used 10 men before installing electrical machinery. He has a woodwork machine that is pulled by 7 1-2 power electric motor—two forges run by two separate electric motors. It is interesting to see this machinery in motion, to say nothing about the unusual stock of goods on hand. Mr. Thomas is the only Negro that does work for the Tide-Water Company. He does \$150 worth of business for this company a month. Mr. Thomas buys his

goods in large quantities, paying a rate of 30 per cent less for rubber than his competitors.

Since moving to Tuscaloosa he has bought \$2,500 worth of property, carries \$5,000 worth of insurance, is a splendid church worker and stands well in his community. He has a fine credit, and says that he has made it so by proving himself perfectly reliable in all matters. If he agreed to be at a certain place at a given time, he is there on the minute. If he agrees to do a piece of work for less than it is worth, he puts as much thought and care into the accomplishment of the job, as if he were making a large profit. His motto is that "Satisfaction is the best advertisement any one can have."

His earning capacity before he came to Tuskegee was \$5 a month and board. Now he often makes as high as \$100 per day.—*Editor.*



PLAN FOR SEED CORN NOW

It Should Be Taken from Stalks Standing Where They Grew

The acre yield of corn in the United States could and should be greatly increased, according to the United States Department of Agriculture, which states that the proper selection of seed is of primary importance in improving the yield. The average production for the country is 26 bushels an acre, though yields as high as 200 bushels have been made by contestants in boys' corn clubs.

Seed corn should be selected from stalks standing where they grew, according to the corn specialists of the department. This is necessary because it is the means of making sure that the seed will have the power to yield well, as shown by the superiority of the stalks over surrounding ones that grew under the same conditions. This sort of seed inherits high producing power.

It must be understood, says the department, that like produces like, and that an early-maturing corn yielding abundantly on short, thick stalks is likely to repeat these same characters in the next generation. For example, seed corn should be taken from stalks without suckers; such seed may produce some stalks with suckers, but it will invariably produce fewer suckers than seed from sucker-bearing stalks.

All seed corn should be selected by hand, as a special task, and not incidental to husking. The corn should be gathered as soon as thoroughly mature and before the first hard freeze. Enough should be gathered for two seasons' planting, to insure a supply of seed, if, for example, the first planting is drowned out, or if

the next crop should be hurt by early frost.

BETTER RURAL SCHOOLS

One of the problems uppermost in the minds of every parent is the education of his children. In this the farmer is no exception and it is probably true that no other class of people puts forth greater efforts or makes greater sacrifices to the end that its children may be adequately educated than does the farmer. That the results of these efforts as represented in the output of our rural schools are satisfactory, however, is seriously questioned both by intelligent farmers and by the professional educator. In fact, very few will contend that the average rural school, as it exists at present in Idaho and elsewhere, offers a satisfactory education for the farmers' children or one that is at all comparable to that which is to be held in the average village and city school. The farmer's dissatisfaction with the rural school is very clearly shown by the common tendency to leave the farm and move to town, temporarily or permanently, that the children may enjoy the advantages of better schools.

According to the report of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, a little less than half of the school children enrolled in the public schools of Idaho are found in rural schools, for the most part one-room schools. Theoretically it looks like a sound proposition that the State should see to it that these country children have as good a chance for an education as the other half which happens to live in town. Practically, is this possible? Probably not immediately and in all places. Without doubt, however, if the farmer will

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Tuskegee, Alabama

insistently demand it and intelligently work for it, a rapid approach can be made to such a condition. City and town schools have been vastly improved in the last three or four decades, but the rural school during the same time in public estimation and in the opinion of experts has stood still or gone backwards. It is not just and not safe that this should be allowed to be true of the coming decade.

It can not be doubted that we are passing through one of the critical periods of the world's history. When the world-war is over, society is bound to be reorganized and recast along many lines and is almost certain to enter upon a new era of rapid progress and development. If the agricultural interests of our State and the nation are to hold the place they deserve in the new order of things it

will be necessary for the farmer and the farmer's wife of tomorrow to be as adequately educated as the people of any other group in the nation. It is important, therefore, that those who are responsible for the management of the rural school, the farmer's school, should be alive to the situation and on the lookout for opportunities for improvements. In a large measure this means the farmers themselves. If the farmers of Idaho want better schools and are willing to work for them consistently and unitedly they can have them.

Much Good Foodstuff Can Yet Be Saved

Many people are not aware that there are real delicacies in the way of foodstuff that is likely to go to waste unless vigorous efforts are put forth to save it by canning, pickling, drying, preserving, etc.

The following things may be had in greater or less abundance from now until frost:

Pears—should be canned, preserved or dried.

Cucumbers—should be salted down in brine, or made into sweet or sour pickle.

Gherkins (the wild prickly cucumber)—should be treated exactly the same as the cucumber.

Apples (wild Crab) should be made into jelly, catsup, jams, marmalades, etc.

Tomatoes—should be canned, dried, preserved, etc.

Grape (Muscadine, Scupper-nonge, Fox)—should be canned, dried, preserved, jellied, made into grape juice, etc.

Corn—should be canned, dried, or put down in brine.

Cushaws and Pumpkins—should be canned or dried.

Melons (Watermelon rinds, Citron, Cantaloupes, Pie Melon)—should be preserved, pickled, or put down in brine the same as cucumber.

The pie-melon, which is very light green, may be pulled just before frost, and put in a cool dark place. They will keep all winter. They are very fine for pies and sauce. They are peeled, cut up, and stewed; a little vinegar or lemon juice is added, and otherwise treated exactly the same as an apple pie, which it closely resembles in both looks and taste.

Beans—should be canned, dried, pickled, or salted down the same as cucumbers.

Okra—should be canned or dried.

Prizes Awarded to the Members of Pig Clubs of Macon County, Ala., August 9, 1917.

In this way I wish to thank the Tuskegee Institute and the Merchants of the town of Tuskegee who gave the prizes that were awarded to the Pig Club members at the last Educational meeting, which was held in the Institute Chapel, August 7th, 1917. The prizes were awarded as follows: First prize, a pig, was given to the club member raising the largest hog. This prize was awarded to Addie Askew, of Harris Barrett community. The second, a cash prize of \$2.50, was awarded to Bernice Smith, of Harris Barrett community. The third prize, a 24 lb. sack of flour, given by Mr. A. J. Wilborn, was awarded to David Perry, of Chehaw community. The next, a cash prize of \$1.50, was given to the boy who made the greatest improvement as a Club member along all lines. This prize was award-

ed to Charlie Chambliss, of Harris Barrett community. The W. Hayes prize of fifty cents worth of seeds was given to the boy who proved the most faithful president of a Pig Club. This prize was awarded to Lovie Wright, of Harris Barrett community. A prize of one dollar was awarded to the pig club member who raised the best garden. This prize was awarded to Annie Lee Lane of Macedonia community. A prize of one dollar's worth of seed, given by Mr. L. C. Lewis, was awarded to the club member of Rising Star community, who raised the best garden. This prize was awarded to Samuel Barney. The B. F. Pearson prize of a shirt was given to the club member of Rising Star community, who raised the largest hog. This prize was given to Jessie Thomas.

SUGGESTIONS TO THE HOUSE-WIFE

In the midst of these trying times there is a very important part to be played by the housewife. A man may be ever so thrifty-but unless the wife is careful and economical along all lines the family will always be in want. A few suggestions from the United States Department of Agriculture will prove helpful along this line.

Do you know that Prof. Carver has gathered from his one-acre plot of land, 42 bushels of first-class corn? Not a pound of commercial fertilizer was used on this plot.

Do you know that Capt. Conrad Hutchinson has sold twenty-five bushels of choice sweet potatoes? Has also a fine lot of sugar cane ready for the market.

AN APPEAL TO WOMEN

Washington, D. C.—The Secretary of Agriculture, in response to requests from many editors for a statement as to service women can render the Nation in the direction of producing and conserving agricultural products, has issued the following:

To the Women of the United States:

"Every woman can render important service to the Nation in its present emergency. She need not leave her home or abandon her home duties to help the armed forces. She can help to feed and clothe our armies and help to supply food to those beyond the seas by practicing effective thrift in her own household.

"Every ounce of food the housewife saves from being wasted in her home—all food which she or her children produce in the garden and can or preserve—every garment which care and skillful repair make it unnecessary to replace—all lessen that household's draft on the already insufficient world supplies.

"To save food the housewife must learn to plan economical and properly balanced meals which, while nourishing each member of the family properly, do not encourage overeating or offer excessive and wasteful variety. It is her duty to use all effective methods to protect food from spoilage by heat, dirt, mice, or insects. She must acquire the culinary ability to utilize every bit of edible food that comes into her home. She must learn to use such foods as vegetables, beans, peas, and milk products as partial substitutes for meat. She must make it her business to see that nothing nutritious is thrown away or allowed to be wasted.

"Waste in any individual household

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REGISTERED PHARMACISTS SERVE YOU

"If you believe in efficiency and want service, trade with us and you will not be disappointed."

OUR BIG NEW SUNDRY STOCK OFFERS TO YOU IN A GREAT VARIETY SUCH HOLIDAY GIFTS AS:
ELECTRIC IRONS IVORY PYRALIN TOILET WARE

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COMB AND BRUSH SETS TOILET ARTICLES PERFUMES
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Jas. B. Dudley, President, Greensboro, N. C.

Morehouse College

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An Institution famous within recent years for its emphasis on all sides of manly development; the only Institution in the far South devoted solely to the education of Negro young men.

Graduates given high ranking by greatest Northern universities.

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Can you wonder why we do such a big Fish and Oyster business? We've got the facilities and can give you the service. Write us for prices.

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Money Made Easy!

Thousands yearly, a splendid income may be realized in spare time. Unique Schemes in feathers explains methods which will make you quick money in poultry. Your backyard will do. This information you possibly never heard before, it is original and will reveal to you knowledge worth many dollars. It is increasing a sensation almost phenomenal and with persistence will bring you the dollars. This amazing course will surprise you. PROFITS PILE UP WHILE YOU SLEEP. Send for particulars.

Edwards Sale Company,
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may seem to be insignificant, but if only a single ounce of edible food, on the average, is allowed to spoil or be thrown away in each of our 20,000,000 homes, over 1,300,000 pounds of material would be wasted each day. It takes the fruit of many acres and the work of many people to raise, prepare, and distribute 464,000,000 pounds of food a year. Every

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The Most Wonderful Hair Discovery of the Age



For twelve years it has stood the test of the most critical and the most skeptical and is to-day being used by thousands of satisfied customers. Reginall Cocoa Balm is a hair food that makes the hair grow straight.

If you want long and luxurious hair, and a scalp that is clean and free from dandruff, use Reginall Cocoa Balm. Put up in 25¢ & 50¢ boxes.

Reginall Shampoo Jelly cleanses the scalp, and nourishes and invigorates the roots. Price 25¢.

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Send for trial box today. All goods sold on a money back guarantee. Write today. Stamps or coin taken for any amount less than \$1.00.

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It's the very finest suit you ever saw. \$50 couldn't buy a better one, but you can get it free. It's made to your measure from the most beautiful cloth. Don't fail to get one of these suits. You can earn it while you wear it and make

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A FULL LINE of Hair Brushes, Nets and Toilet Articles is illustrated and can be bought for less than offered elsewhere.

Send two-cent stamp for book today. AGENTS WANTED. **RUMAHIA HAIR COMPANY,** 181-187 Park Row, New York

ounce of food thrown away, therefore, tends also to waste the labor of an army of busy citizens.

"Clothing is largely an agricultural product and represents the results of labor on the sheep ranges, in cotton fields, and in mills and factories. Whenever a useful garment is needlessly discarded material needed to keep some one warm or dry may be consumed merely to gratify a passing fancy. Women would do well to look upon clothing at this time more particularly from the utilitarian point of view.

"Leather, too, is scarce and the proper shoeing of armies calls for great supplies of this material. There are only so many pairs of shoes in each hide, and there is a shortage of animals for leather as well as for meat. Anything that can be done to encourage adults or children to take care of their shoes and make them last longer means that so much more leather is available for other purposes.

"Employed women, especially those engaged in the manufacture of food or clothing, also directly serve their country and should put into their tasks the enthusiasm and energy the importance of their product warrants.

"While all honor is due to the women who leave their homes to nurse and care for those wounded in battle, no woman should feel that, because she does not wear a nurse's uniform, she is absolved from patriotic service. The home women of the country, if they will give their minds fully to this vital subject of food conservation and train themselves in household thrift, can make of the housewife's apron a uniform of national significance.

"Demonstrate thrift in your homes and encourage thrift among your neighbors.

"Make saving rather than spending your social standard.

"Make economy fashionable lest it become obligatory."

UNCLE SAM'S THRIFT THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Uncle Sam's Thrift Thought For Monday

Here is an appetizing way to use that meat left from yesterday's roast, Madam Housewife. It is suggested by the U. S. Department of Agriculture:

Meat Pie

Cut meat into fairly small pieces. stew in saucepan with a little water, left-over gravy or soup, salt to taste, and such seasoning vegetables as onions and celery, if desired. Thicken liquid with flour. Line baking dish with biscuit dough, pour in the meat filling, cover with biscuit dough and bake in a medium oven.

If the quantity of meat is small, a little macaroni or diced potato may be added.

Such pies to be at their best must be well seasoned.

Uncle Sam's Thrift Thought for Tuesday

What are you going to do with that half bottle of left-over milk in your refrigerator, Madam Housewife?

The cream has been taken off but

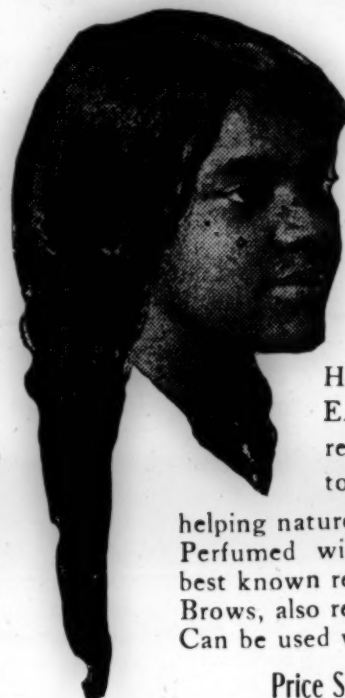
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1 Hair Grower, 1 Temple Oil, 1 Shampoo, 1 Pressing Oil, 1 Face Cream and Direction for Selling, \$2.00
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T. M. Campbell, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama

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\$3.75 SUIT NO EXTRA CHARGES

Made to measure in latest style. Not \$3.75, not even \$1, not even one cent cost to you under our easy conditions. No extra charge for fancy, swell styles, no extra charge for extra big, extreme peg-tops, pearl buttons, tunnel or fancy belt loops, no extra charge for anything, all free. Before you take another order, before you buy a suit or pants, get our samples and new offer. Agents of other tailoring houses please write, we have a new deal that will open your eyes. We ask every man to answer this, every boy in long pants, every man, every where. No matter where you live, or what you do, write us a letter or postal and say "Send Me Your Offer" the big, new different tailoring deal. Costs nothing and no extra charges. Write today, this minute. Address: **KNICKERBOCKER TAILORING CO., Dept. 752, Chicago, Ill.**



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Gentlemen: Before I used your Exelento Quinine Pomade my hair was short, coarse and nappy, but now it has grown to 32 inches long, and is so soft and silky that I can do it up any way I want to. I am sending you my picture to show you how pretty Exelento has made it. **SALLIE REED.**

Don't let some fake Kink Remover fool you. You really can't straighten your hair until it is nice and long. That's what

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does, removes Dandruff, feeds the roots of the hair, and makes it grow long, soft and silky. After using a few times you can tell the difference, and after a little while it will be so pretty and long that you can fix it up to suit you. If Exelento doesn't do as we claim, we will give your money back.

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For Scalp, Hair and Skin

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We manufacture all the Latest Styles of Creole Hair Goods, Electric Combs Raw Hair, Etc.

We are the largest Hair Dealers, and show a larger variety of styles, and sell more Fine Creole Wigs than any other manufacturers in the United States. Write for New Catalogue. It is FREE.



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KINKY HAIR

MADE STRAIGHT

Colored folks are crazy about Herolin, the new discovery which straightens out kinky, snarly or nappy hair. Simply apply a little

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SEND 25c (stamps or coin) for a big box. HEROLIN MEDICINE CO., Atlanta, Ga.

AGENTS You can make an easy living selling Herolin. Write for terms.



there is good food value in what is left.

Here is one possibility, says the U. S. Department of Agriculture, for a nourishing dish for either luncheon or supper:

Nourishing Milk Gravy

(Enough for family of two adults and three children. Reduce proportions if for smaller number.)

1 pint skim milk.

¼ cup of flour.

2 level teaspoons butter or cooking fat.

½ teaspoonful salt.

Melt butter or other fat in saucepan. Add flour and salt mixed. Blend. Add milk gradually. Heat, stirring constantly until thick.

Flavor, if desired, with any leftover minced meat or fish which may be on hand, or minced ham or a slice of broiled bacon, crumbled.

Serve on boiled hominy, samp, rice, potatoes, macaroni, or slices of corn or other bread, or toast.

Uncle Sam's Thrift Thought for Wednesday.

Don't throw away stale bread, Madam Housewife. It can be used in many ways in preparing your family meals.

Here is one use suggested by the U. S. Department of Agriculture:

Breakfast Rusks

Dry or slightly toast slices of bread and ends of loaves on the back of a stove or in a slow oven. Crush with rolling pin and serve the fragments with milk or cream and sugar, and fruit, if desired, as a breakfast food.

This product closely resembles some commercially prepared breakfast foods and is obviously less expensive.

Five Reasons For Fall Destruction of Cotton Plants

1. Hordes of adult weevils, many for each plant in the field, are killed outright.
2. Many more weevils that are in the immature stages, sometimes as many as a hundred for each plant in the field, are also killed.
3. The few adult weevils escaping will be weakened by starvation, and the great majority will not have sufficient strength to pass through the winter.
4. The development of the late broods, which experiments have shown furnish the vast majority of weevils that pass through the winter, is cut off immediately. In this way hundreds of weevils that would develop from each plant are absolutely prevented from so doing.
5. The removal of the infested plants with the weevils facilitates fall or early winter plowing, which is the best possible procedure in cotton raising. Moreover, this plowing assists greatly in the production of an early crop the following season.

Tuskegee's Butter Scores High

The Agricultural Department of the Institute feels proud of the high butter scores at Athens, Georgia, College of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Dairy Division of the Federal Department at Washington, D.C.

The records received show "Good Work" and the two scores of 91 and 91½, given by two separate judges. This is thought to be excellent for our boys here, especially when the butter was made, sent and put on exhibit during the midst of this summer's hot wave—a trying time to carry on such work, even with every convenience and sufficient ice.

Judges—C. T. Goodwin and H. H. Whiting.



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Complete Course by Mail or by Personal Instruction.

A Diploma from LELIA COLLEGE OF HAIR CULTURE

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